

E. J. AND F. BLACKWELL, PRINTERS, READING.

Extracts from the Parish Registers.

BAPTISMS.

August 6th.—(born June 5th,) Henry, son of Thomas and Anne Janes, of Shogmoor.

MARRIAGES.

July 29th,—William Plumridge and Jane Higgins. August 5th,—Henry Lucas and Sarah Lathan.

BURIAL.

August 10th,—(died Aug. 7th), Thomas Harman, of Hambleden, aged 70 years.

SOUTH BUCKS FRIENDLY SOCIETY.

The Annual Feast of the Hambleden District was held on Tuesday, July 11th. A preliminary Meeting had been held to determine whether the Feast should be held at all, and if so, under what regulations. It was disappointing therefore that a very small number of members was present. The early part of the day was most unfavourable. The Club had never before, we believe, attended Divine Service in such soaking rain as fell that morning. But this was not the cause of so many absenting themselves. They had sent in their names some days previously, so that when the actual day arrived, it was pretty well known who would and who would not be present. The rain cleared off pretty well before the end of dinner, but the uncertainty of the weather prevented many from coming to enjoy the sports in the meadow. The arrangements altogether were not satisfactory. We forbear to suggest any possible cause or causes for this; but we feel sure from what we have heard from more than one quarter, that if some better arrangement be not determined upon at an early period of next season, and steps be taken to carry out efficiently such better arrangement, the Club Feast will not again be accomplished under the patronage and with the assistance which it has hitherto received. From what the Rector said in his speech after the dinner, it may safely be concluded that the gentry will not continue to contribute the amount of their present subscriptions, when less than half the number of members attends, and when real efforts are not made to make the best of all means which are available. This will be a great pity, more especially as the Club has now purchased, for its own sole use, a quantity of crockery-ware, which may serve it for many years to come. The well-wishers to the Club and the Club Feast will do well to look after its interests in April or May of next year, and to take measures for real and effectual good management.

CRICKET.

The Rector's Annual Cricket Match came off on the 26th July. Several who had been invited failed to put in an appearance, but a capital match was got up between employers and employed, alias gentry and working-men. The weather in the morning seemed so uncertain that it was thought better to have the dinner in-doors instead of on the lawn. This change of site however did not appear either to disturb the appetites of the company, or to hinder their appreciation of the good things set before them. In the first innings there was very little difference between the two sides. After dinner the gentlemen quickly got their runs, and when the working-men took the bats it seemed that they could not hold them long. The victory seemed both sure and easy for their opponents, till Falkner and C. Webbe faced each other, and then very shortly the score told a different tale. The game was played out and left the working-men conquerors by twelve runs. All persons agreed that they had spent a most pleasant and delightful day. There was some very good play on both sides, and the evenness of the sides kept up the interest to the very last.

We hope that early in September, Hambleden and Frieth will play a match, when the former will try to recover the ground

they lost by their defeat last year.

THE SCHOOLS.

We must hope that by the time the Day Schools can re-open after Harvest, all epidemic sickness will have passed away, and so that no reason may exist for any of the children being kept away. It is of the greatest importance that all the children be sent back the first week. and be kept at School with perfect regularity; for a few weeks only will elapse before the Government Inspector will pay his visit and examine the Schools, and there are many children whose attendance falls short of the appointed number of times, and whose learning, we fear, falls quite as short of what the Inspector will require. It would be well if all employers of labour would interest themselves in the education of their labourers' children, at least so far as to try to persuade the parents to send them back at once and keep them there regularly.

LABOURERS' FRIEND ASSOCIATION.

The Show of Vegetables, Fruits, and Flowers, will be held during this month. Public notice will be given of the precise day. We hope that the experience of the past years will encourage a large number of the cottagers in all parts of the Parish to exhibit the productions of their Gardens.

On Thursday, July 27th, the Choir Boys had their treat. The party consisted of the boys, the Rector, Rev. C. M. Wetherall, Mr. Falkner, W. Falkner, W. Bushnell. They were driven by Mr. Feesey in his van to Burnham Beeches. The day was perfect as to weather, and the behaviour as well as enjoyment of the boys was no less delightful. The party picnicked under the trees, and then dispersed to ride ponies and donkies, to play trap and ball, to examine the old trees, and climb into them. They had pic-nic tea as evening drew on, and then enjoyed a lovely drive home, reaching Hambleden again at 8.30 p.m.

HAMBLEDEN FAIR.

On the day of Henley Fair this rival Institution will come off. Every care will be taken to make it as attractive and entertaining as possible, and it is hoped that all those who know the mischiefs which attach to Henley Fair, will help to keep the young away from Henley, and so will help to add to the attractions of the Hambleden Entertainment. Festivities will be kept up to a late hour.

We are requested by the Frieth Choir to announce that they hope to have a stall for the sale of the fancy and useful articles which kind friends have furnished them, the profits of which are to go towards the purchase of the New Organ for Frieth.

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